

Appl. No. 09/931,493
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2007

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Remarks

By this Amendment, Claims 1-18, and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9-11, 12-15, and 17, have been amended. Claim 19 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Patent Office rejected Claims 1-18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Salinger, U.S. Patent No. 6,252,912 (Salinger).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection; however, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9-11, 12-15, and 17 and 15 have been amended to overcome the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Patent Office indicated that Claim 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 19 has been canceled, and Claims 1, 10 and 15 have been amended to include the limitation of Claim 19, and thus are believed allowable. Claims 2-9, 11-14, 16-18 and 20 are believed allowable based on their dependence upon allowable base claims.

Conclusion

The application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. In the event the indication of allowability is withdrawn, applicants reserve the right to amend the claims back to the original form for further prosecution, without prejudice, disclaimer or estoppel. In the event that issues arise in the application that may readily be resolved via telephone, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned Attorney at (319) 295-8280 to facilitate prosecution of the application.

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Applicant thanks the Patent Office for the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant wishes to seek expeditious issuance of a patent containing claims directed to subject matter found allowable by the Patent Office. However, Applicant does not acquiesce to the rejections of Claim 1-18 and 20, and reserves the right to present claims drawn to the same or similar subject matter for consideration in a continuing application.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCKWELL COLLINS, INC.

Dated: 7/23/07

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